

The VVFC News Alert - PRIVATE FACILITIES

BACKPAGE

February 2004

VVFC Requirement Doses Administered

In continued efforts to increase accountability, your facility is required to track the number of VVFC vaccine doses administered to VVFC eligible children throughout the month of March 2004 using the VVFC Doses Administered Report enclosed. This new annual requirement, in combination with the Inventory Report completed for December and submitted in January, will be used to improve our distribution system.

Completed reports are to be faxed to the VVFC office no later than Monday, April 5, 2004. VVFC reserves the right to place a hold on your vaccine orders if your report is not received by the deadline.



Required Contracts Must Be Returned

It is a federal requirement to keep a current contract on file with the VVFC office at all times. Once signed, contracts are only valid for 12 months. Once your contract has expired, you will receive a new VVFC Registration Form and contract, to complete and return to the VVFC office. Included in this form is your shipping and mailing information, physician signatures and Medicaid numbers, and a listing of your affiliated sites. Most importantly, you are also asked to list the number of active patients by age group and by category (Medicaid, uninsured, etc.).

Effective immediately, practices not returning their VVFC Registration Form by the deadline indicated on the form will be placed on a vaccine hold until the form is submitted.

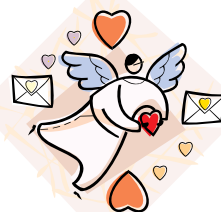
Power Failure Plans: Mandatory

Annual Quality Assurance (QA) reviews are a federal requirement of the national VFC program. During a QA review, VVFC Consultants review eight standards of practice with your facility and help identify where improvements can be made. VVFC has always discussed a recommendation for all facilities to have an emergency vaccine storage plan in the event of a power failure or a storage unit malfunction. **Effective this month, it is not only mandatory to have such a plan, but it must be in written format and accessible to all staff members at your facility.**

This is an important step in assuring the cold chain is observed at all times. Vaccines are only effective if they are administered in a viable condition. In 2003, VVFC facilities returned \$414,000 of spoiled vaccines, \$338,000 being a direct result of Hurricane Isabel. It pays to be proactive, not reactive!

FLU VACCINE

We still have a small amount of preservative free Influenza vaccine in stock. Please call VVFC at 1-877-781-VVFC to place an order!



Email News Alerts

In between newsletters, news is still happening, so we created a VVFC email group. Emails are only sent when news is urgent, such as shipping delays due to weather or vaccine recalls. If you would like to be added to our list, please email VVFC@vdh.state.va.us with your email address and PIN number. You can also email us with any questions you may have about the VVFC program or about immunizations. We currently have 23% of our providers in our email group, but you can help make it 100%!



VVFC Awards

Exceptional Immunization Rates

Southside Pediatrics, P.C., Keysville

Southside Pediatrics, P.C., Farmville

(Immunization rates exceed 90% using CASA software)

Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Access Health Care, Forest

Carilion Family Medicine, Daleville

Old Towne Medical Center, Williamsburg

Practice of Dr. Rodriguez, Alexandria

Theresa Thomas Medical Center, Ashland

Tidewater Children's Associates, Chesapeake

